QtA (Questioning the Author)

Some researchers developed a process called “Questioning the Author” (QtA) in which the reader is encouraged to carry on a conversation with the author while reading a selection. This helps readers relate information from different parts of the text and make connections with their prior knowledge. Some of these “author questions” that students might ask are listed below:

• What is the author trying to say here? What does the author mean here?

• What is the author’s message?

• What is the author talking about?

• Does the author explain this clearly?

• Does this make sense with what the author told us before?

• How does this connect to what the author told us here?

• Does the author tell us why?

